

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 01389 121859Z

40-53

ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PPTE-00 SY-05 DODE-00 /017 W

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R 111636Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3257

UNCLAS PANAMA 1389

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN SHOULD READ 1389 VICE 3257)

FOR SCA AND SY

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: CPAS, CVIS, ASEC, AFSP

SUBJ: PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR PANAMA

1. EMBASSY VERY MUCH CONCERNED WITH FAILURE MARINE CORPS PERSONNEL TO ARRIVE IN PANAMA WITHOUT VALID PANAMANIAN VISA AND ON OCCASION WITHOUT U.S. PASSPORT. THIS HAS BEEN LONG-TIME PROBLEM WITH LATEST CASES AS FOLLOWS:

1) CAPT MIGUEL ANTONION HERNANDEZ - MARINE PERSONNEL OFFICER ASSIGNED TO WASHINGTON. HE ARRIVED AT TOCUMEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, PANAMA, VIA BRANIFF FLIGHT 977 ON FEBRUARY 27, 1975 FOR VACATION WITHOUT PANAMANIAN VISA STATING HE WAS "TOLD DID NOT NEED VISA."

2) SSGT JESUS CARRIZALES NEWLY ASSIGNED TO REGIONAL MARINE OFFICE HERE ARRIVED AT HOWARD AIR FORCE BASE, CANAL ZONE ON MARCH 10, 1975, WITHOUT U.S. PASSPORT OR PANAMANIAN VISA. HE STATES THAT HIS PASSPORT WAS TO HAVE BEEN PICKED UP AT MARINE LIAISON TRAVEL TERMINAL, CHARLESTON AFB, SOUTH CAROLINA, BUT HAD NOT ARRIVED AT TIME OF DEPARTURE FOR PANAMA.

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PAGE 02 PANAMA 01389 121859Z

2. EMBASSY AGAIN STRESSES NEED FOR ALL PERSONNEL TO

ARRIVE AT PANAMA WITH BOTH PASSPORT AND VALID PANAMANIAN VISA. GOP HAS VOICED ITS DISPLEASURE WITH FAILURE USG PERSONNEL TO ABIDE BY GOP VISA REQUIREMENTS. FURTHERMORE, PERSONNEL ARRIVING WITHOUT VISAS OR PASSPORTS PLACE AN ADDITIONAL WORKLOAD ON CONSULAR SECTION.

ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT AGAIN INFORM ALL EMBASSIES THAT ALL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED PANAMA MUST ARRIVE HAVING VALID PASSPORTS AND PANAMANIAN VISAS.

JORDEN

NOTE BY OCT: DODE TAKE THIS AS ORIGINAL DISTRIBUTION.

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